



APSINTHION

PROTOCOL



WRITTEN BY DR. FAUSTUS
ILLUSTRATED BY EROSARTS

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Thank you, and enjoy.



A woman with voluminous, dark, wavy hair is depicted in a green, ethereal environment. She is shown from the waist up, facing right with her head tilted back and eyes closed. Her hair is styled in a large, dramatic bouffant. The background is a deep green with lighter green, swirling patterns. Numerous small, white, bubble-like spheres are scattered around her, particularly concentrated near her head and lower body. The overall mood is dreamlike and surreal.

BUT THERE WOULD BE
NO RECONSTITUTION
AVAILABLE AT THE
OTHER END.

IT WOULD BE A
ONE-WAY TRIP
FOR WHOEVER
TRIED TO MAKE IT.

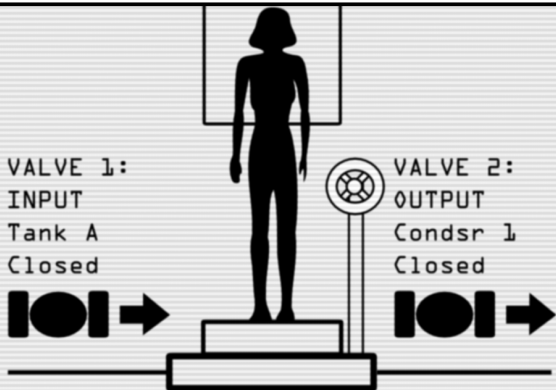
"APSINTHION PROTOCOL"
CHAPTER 7

WRITTEN BY: DR. FAUSTUS
ILLUSTRATED BY: EROSARTS



VALVE 1:
INPUT
Tank A
Closed

VALVE 2:
OUTPUT
Condsr 1
Closed



Status: Ready to Initiate
Containment: off

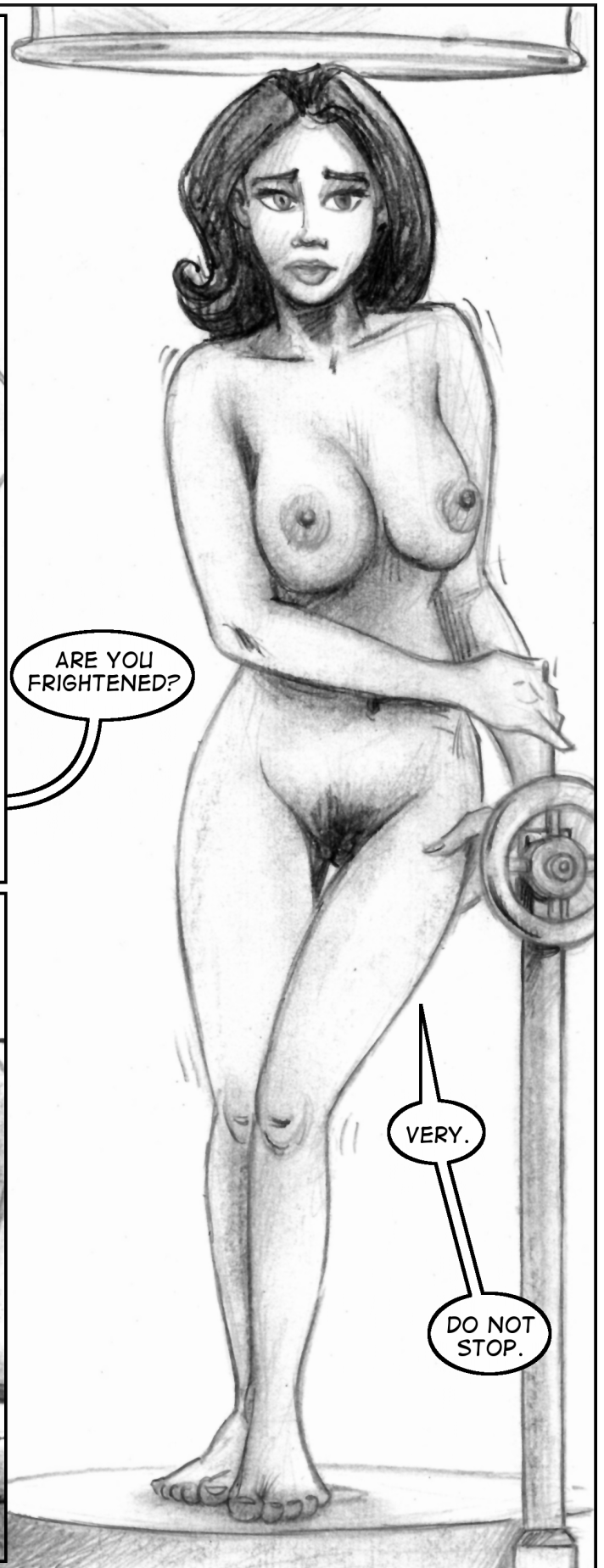
Phase Completion:

<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
1	2	3	4
0%	0%	0%	0%

WE HAVE A
LIFE-AND-
DEATH
DECISION
HERE, AND
NOT MUCH
TIME...







APSINTHION PROTOCOL
INITIATED ON FIFTEEN
SECOND DELAY. COUNTING
DOWN...15...14...

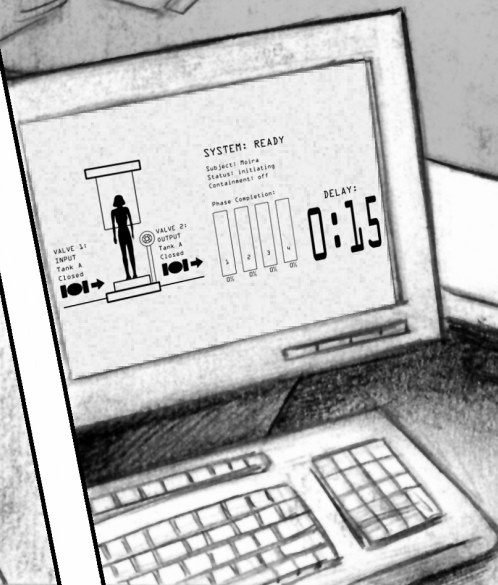
...7...6...5...

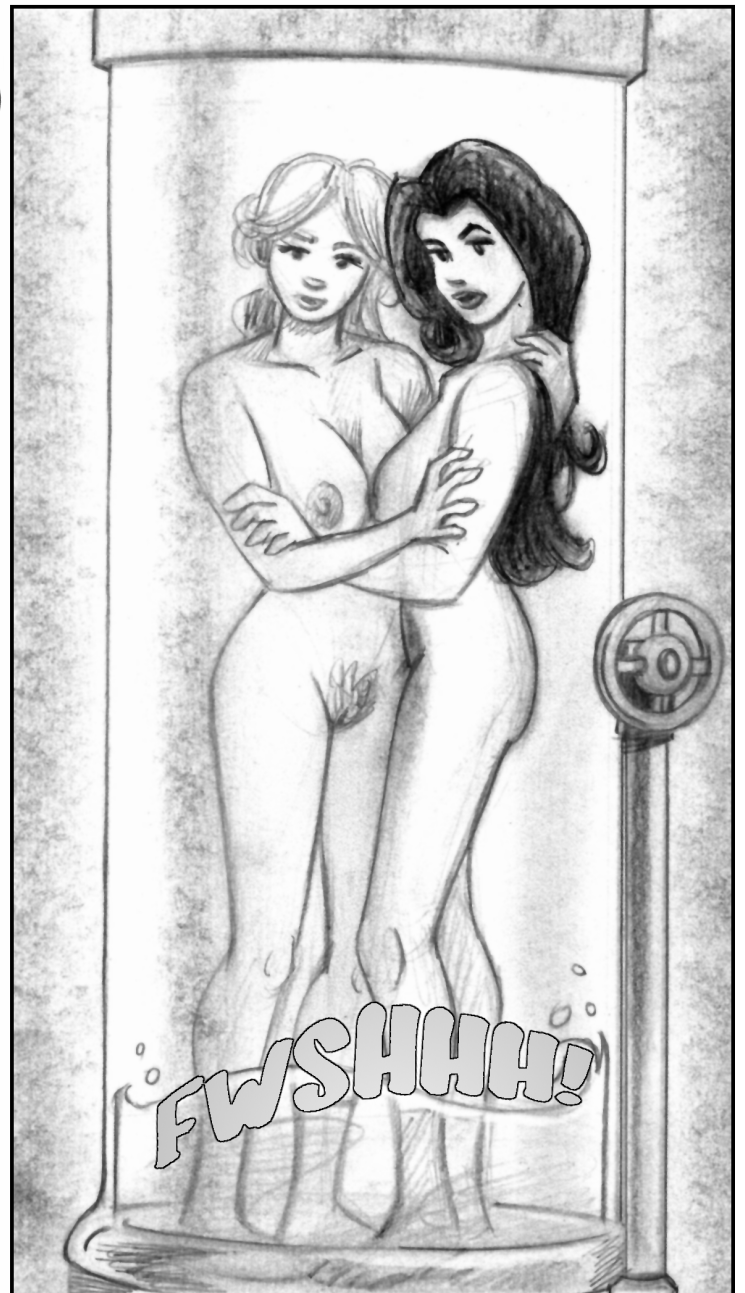
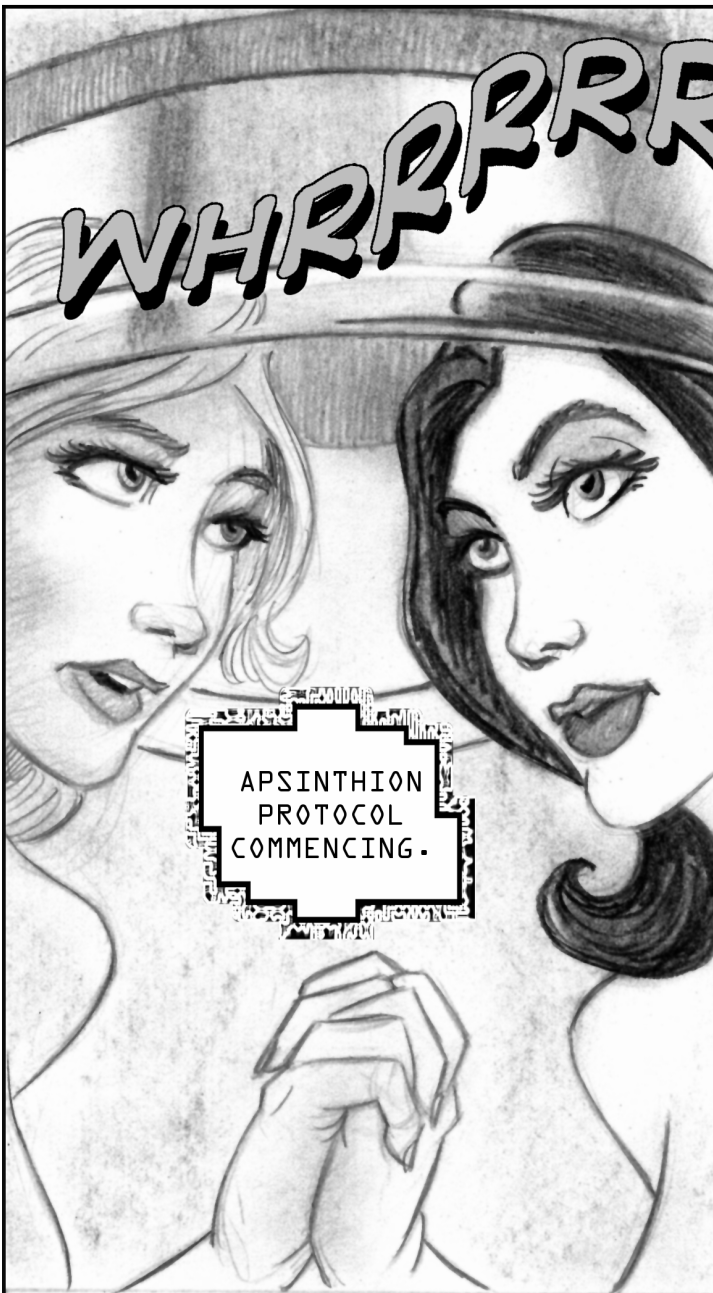


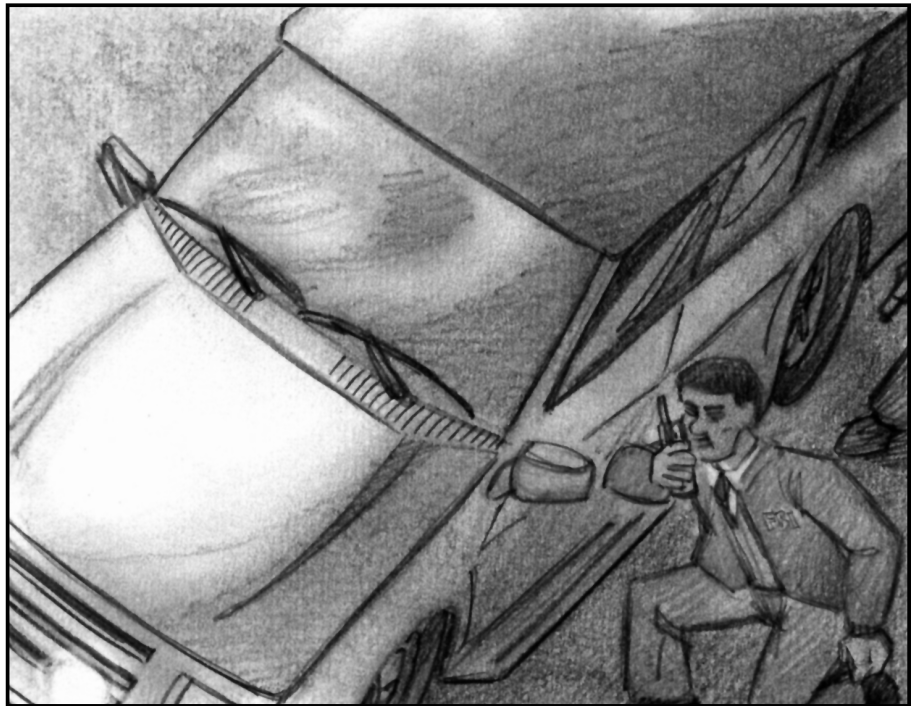
...13
...12
...11
...

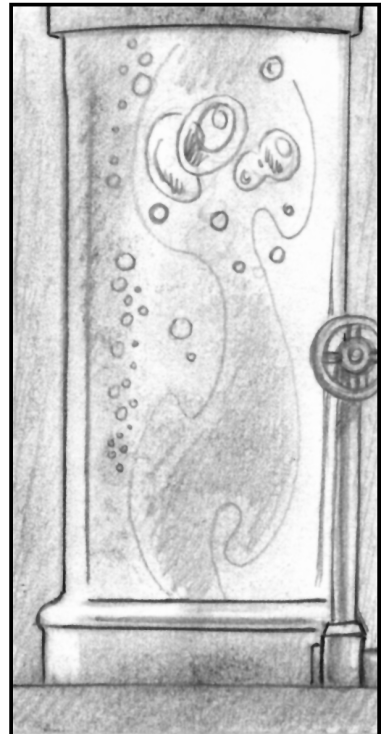
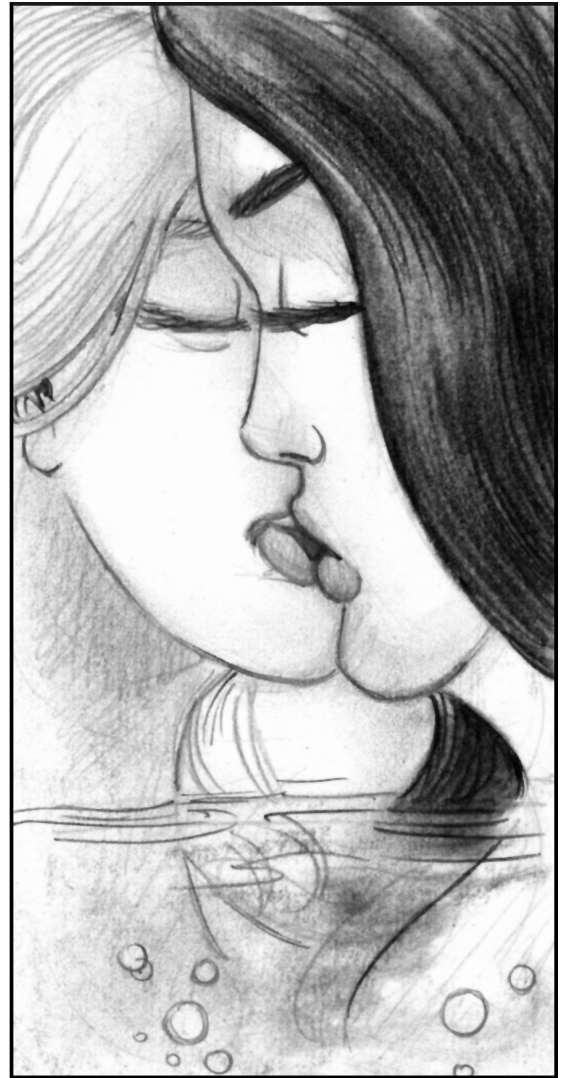
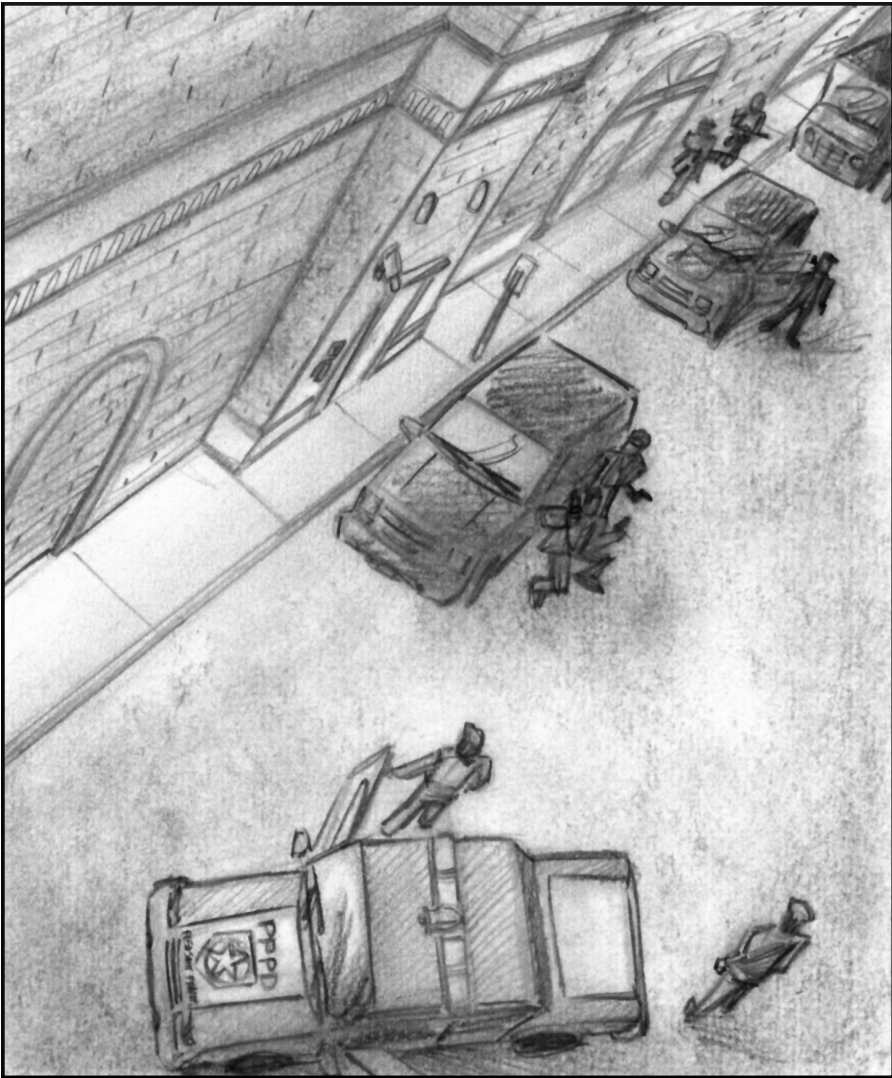


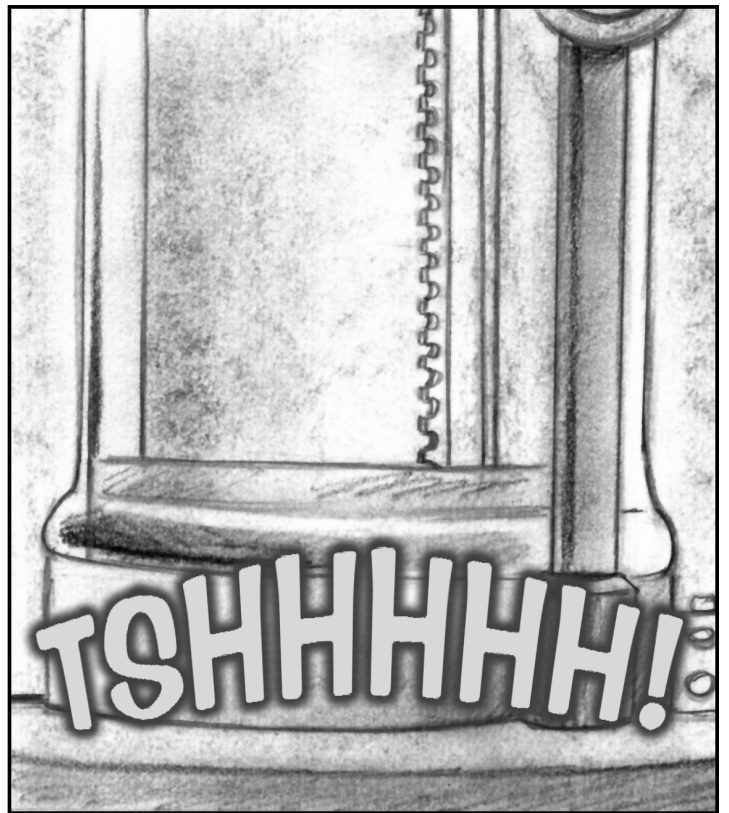
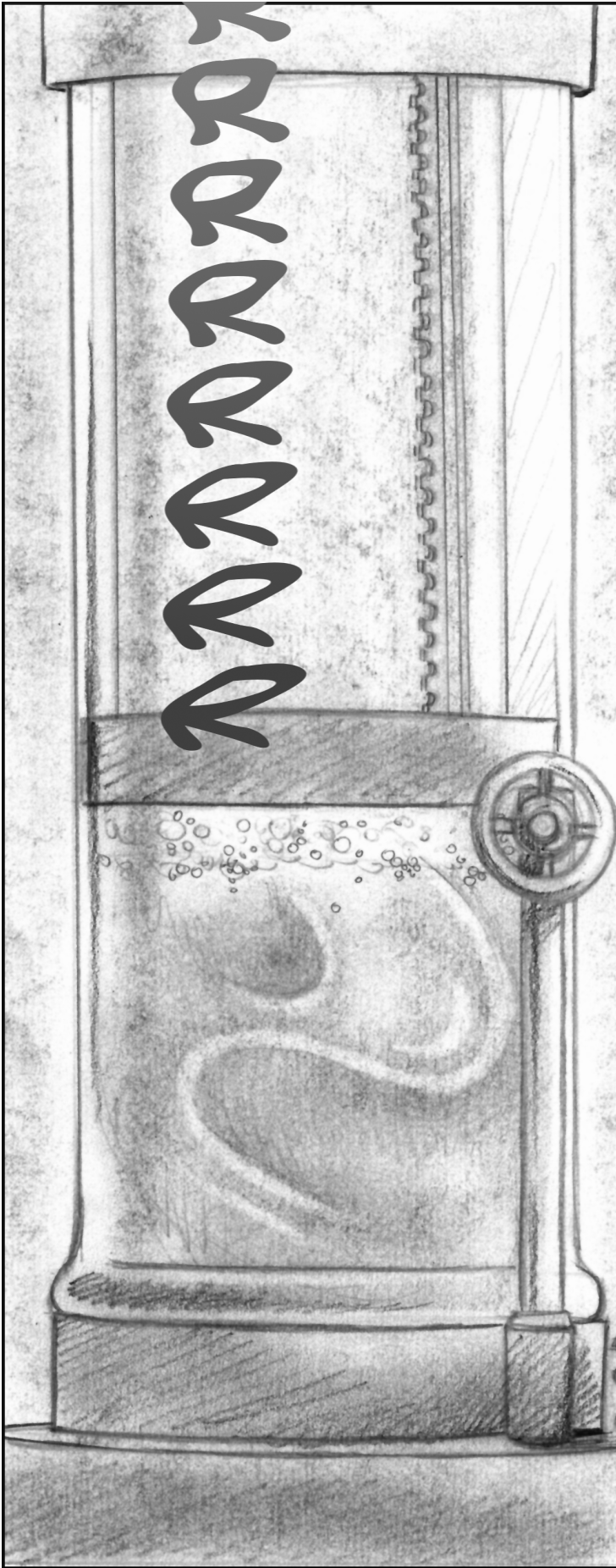
NANETTA, WHAT
ARE YOU...

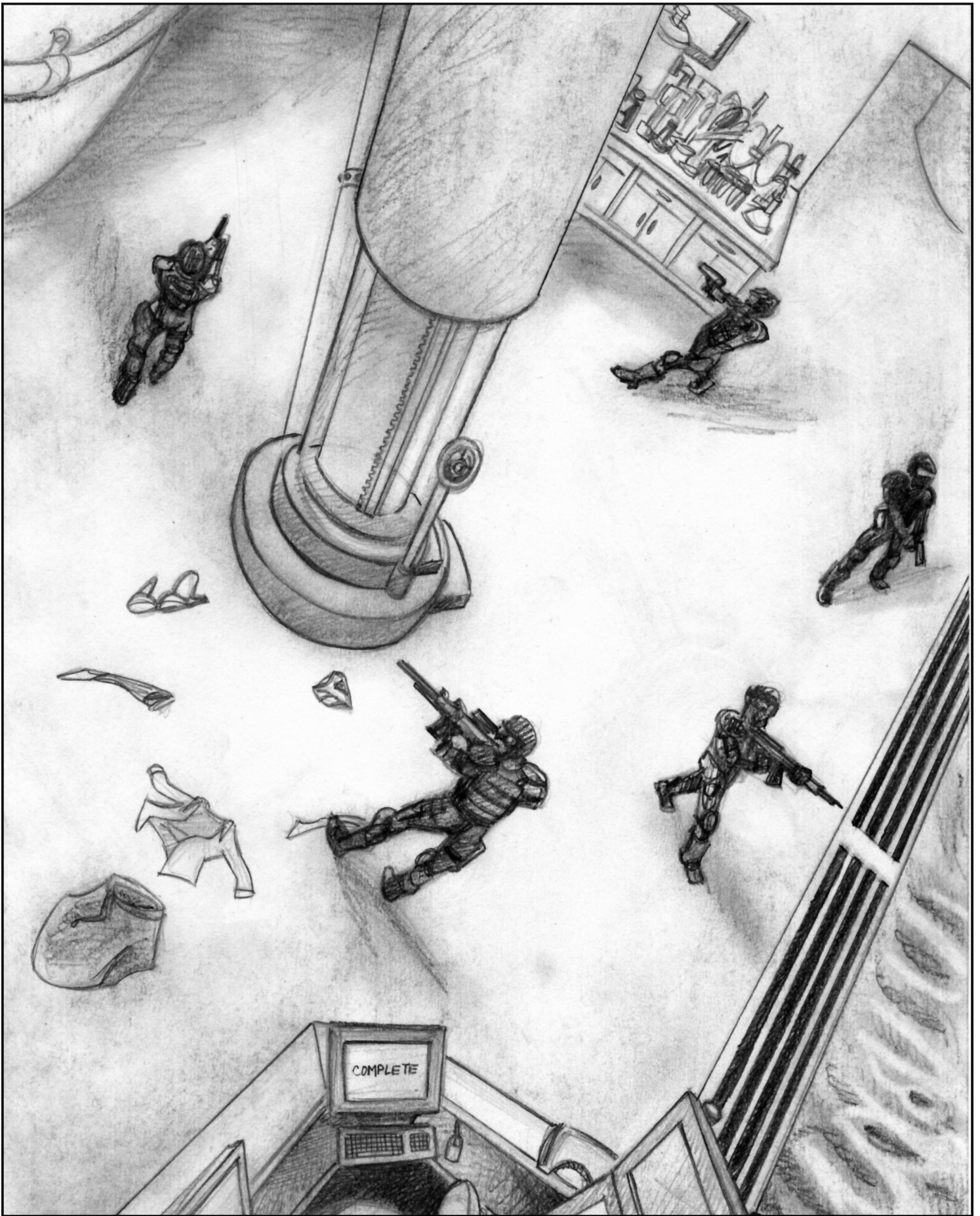


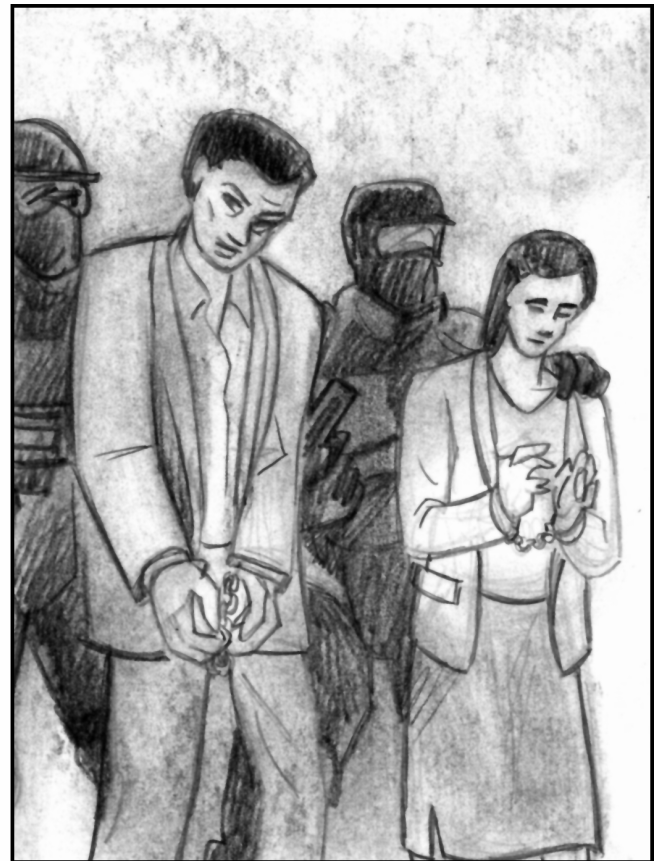




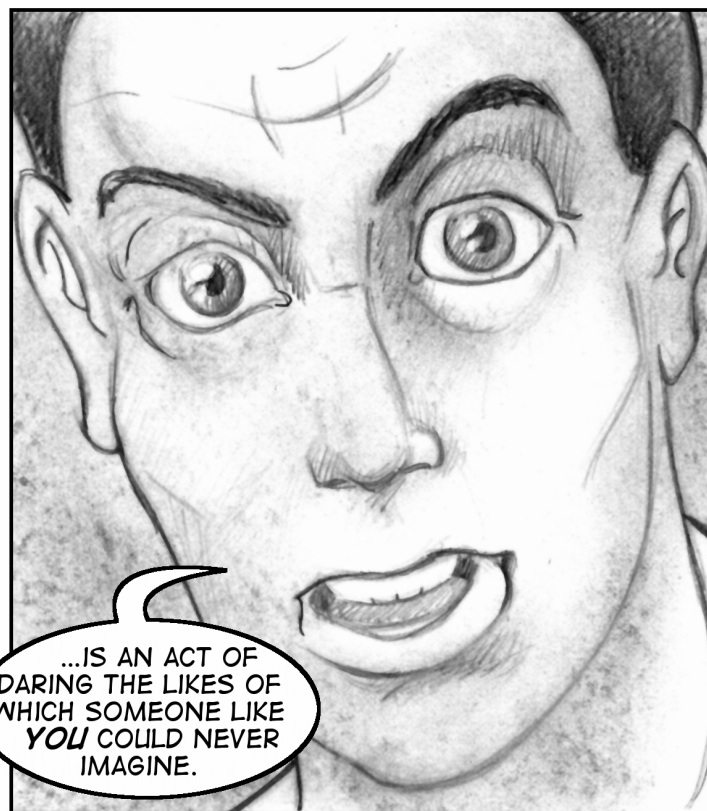
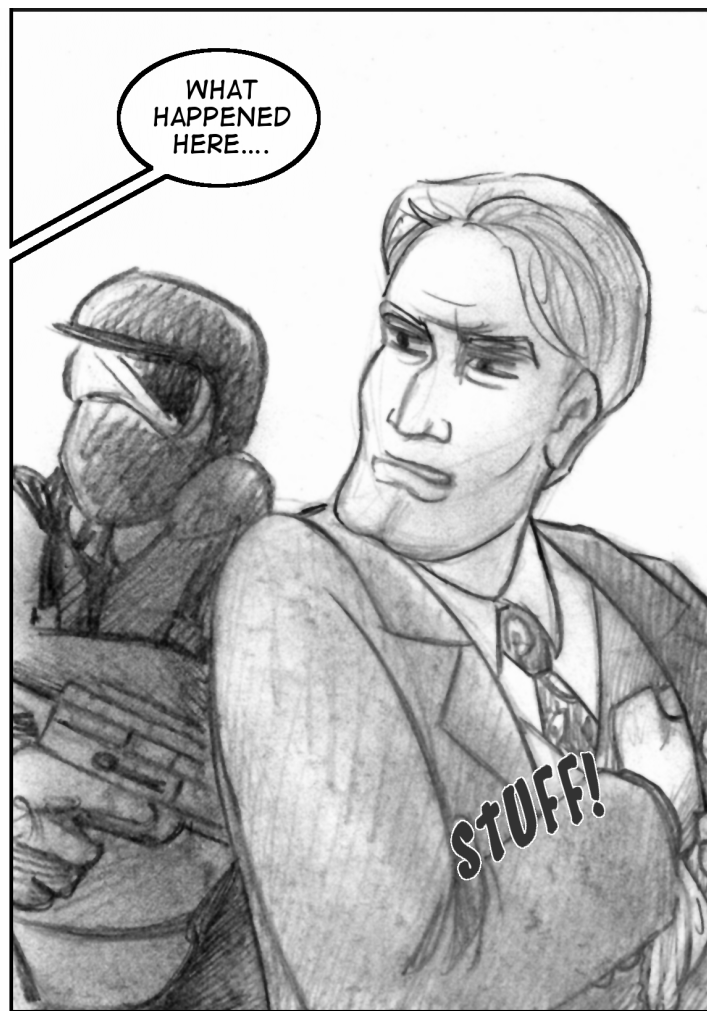


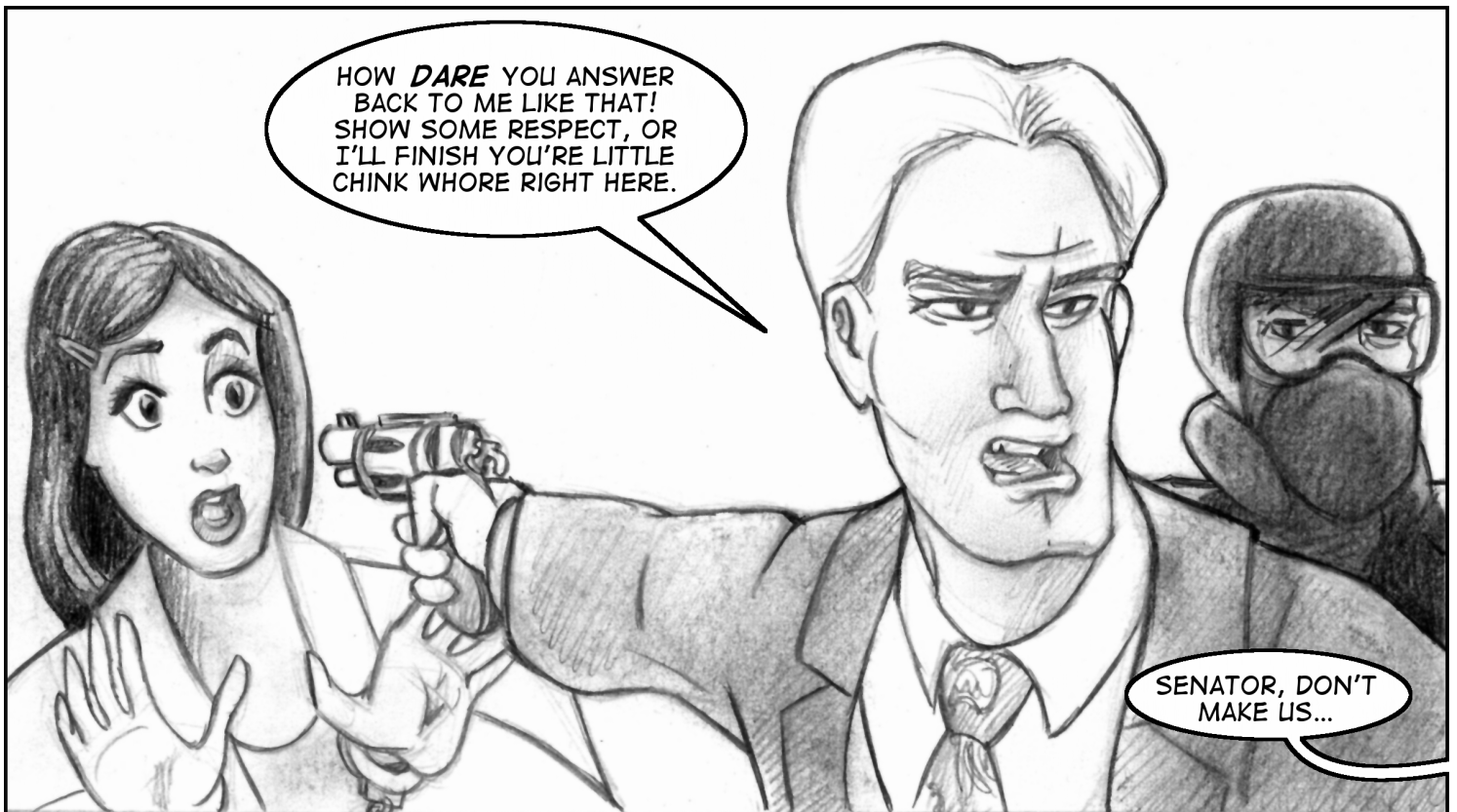
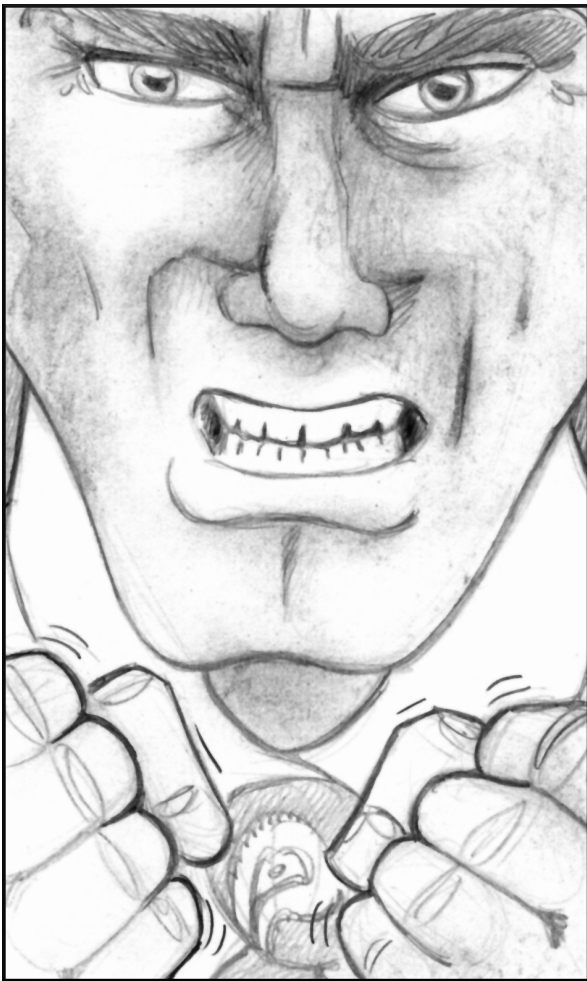


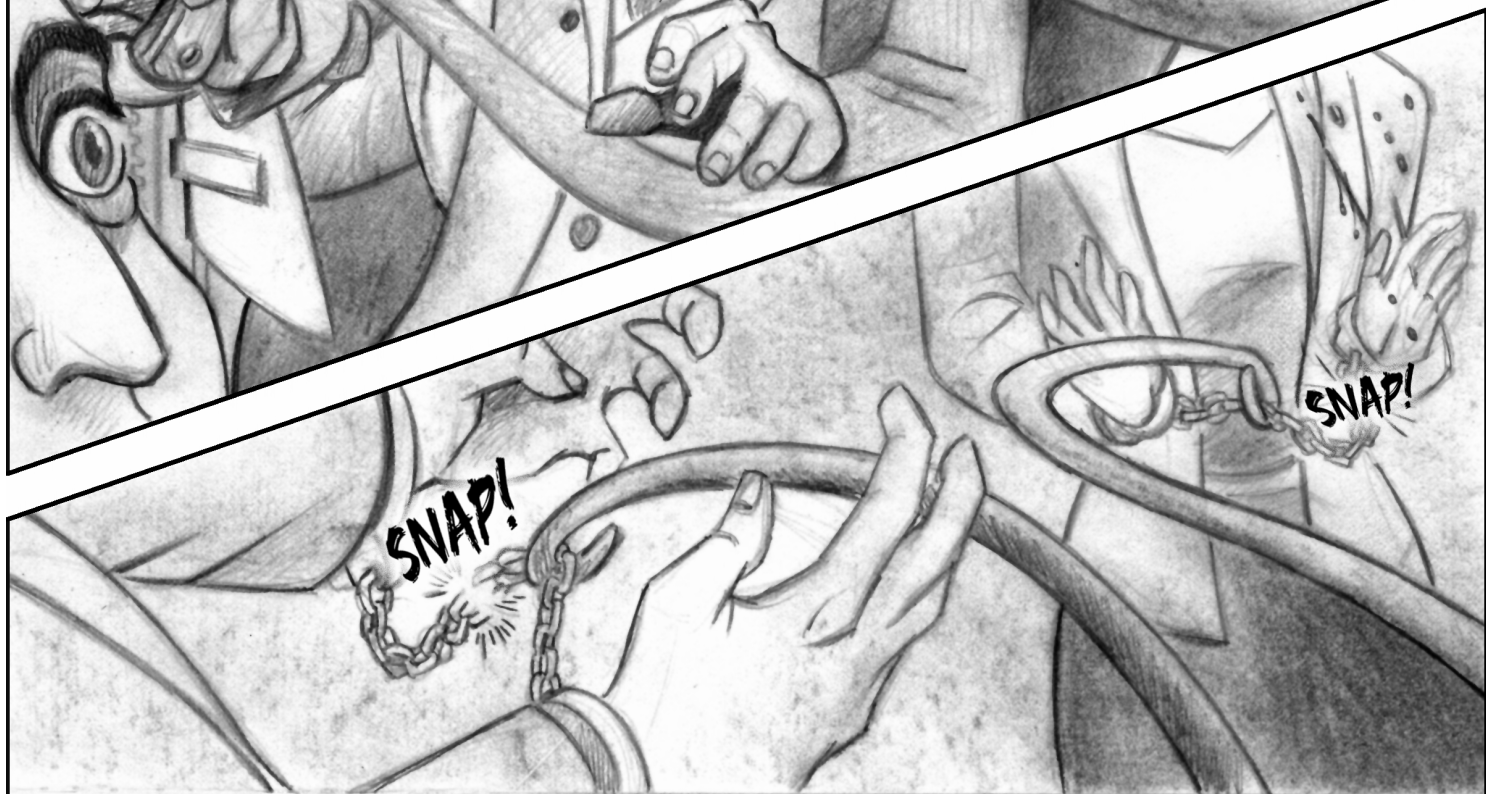
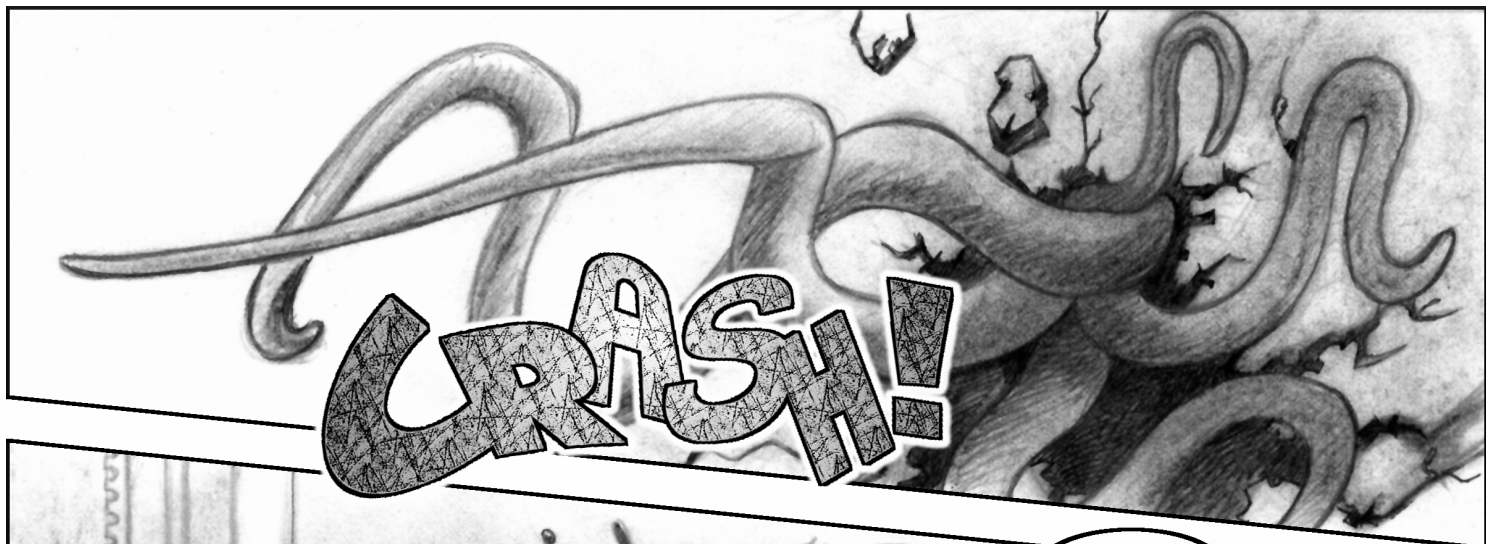














FIRE ON THAT
THING! FIRE!

BAM!
BAM!

BAM!

RAT A TAT
TAT A TAT

RAT A TAT
TAT TAT TAT



HOLY SHIT!
I'M MELTING!

AAAARGH!

RAT A
TAT
TAT!

SHATTER!

FWOOOSH!



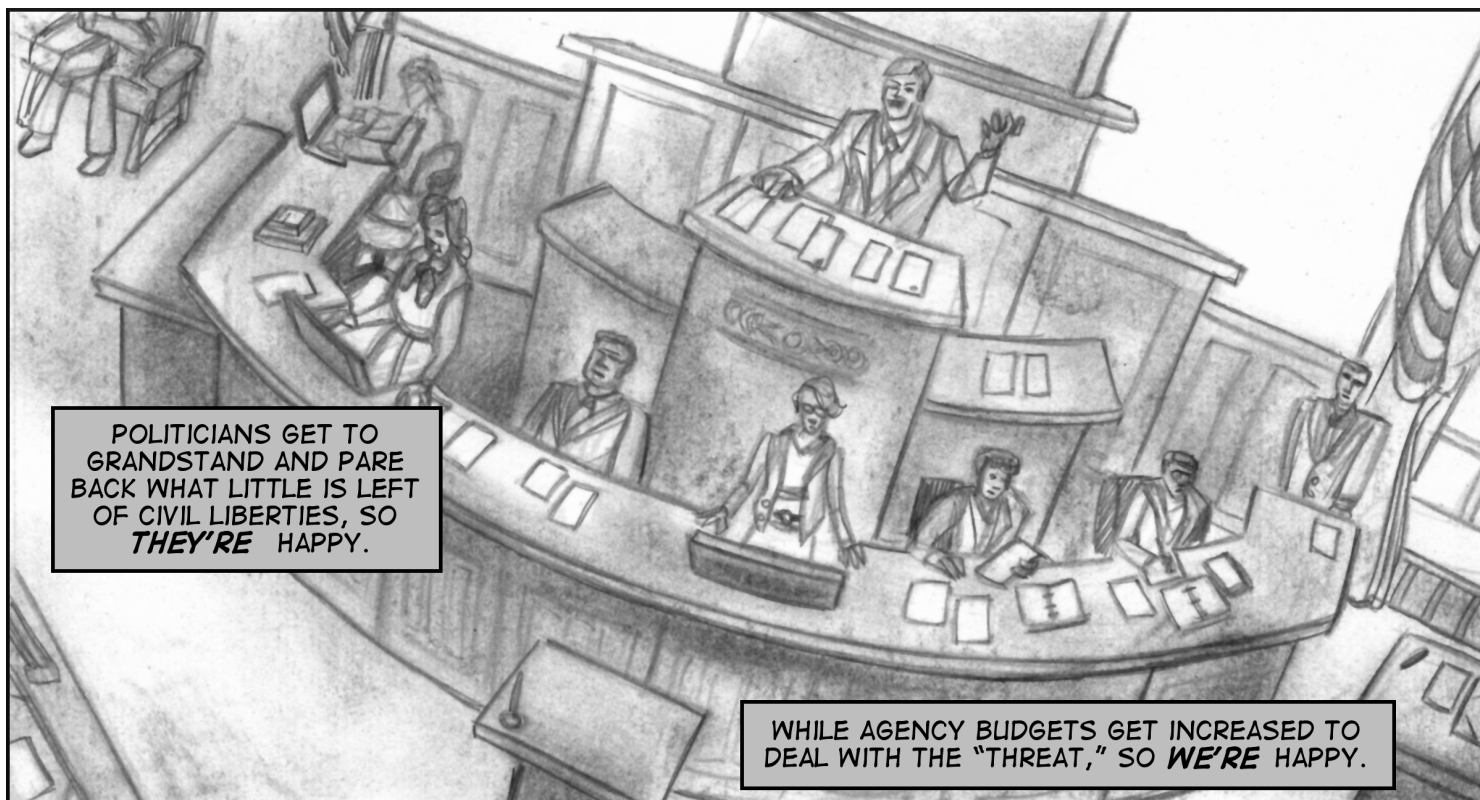




QUITE THE CLUSTERFUCK,
SPECIAL AGENT SMITH.

YES INDEED, SPECIAL-
AGENT-IN-CHARGE.





POLITICIANS GET TO
GRANDSTAND AND PARE
BACK WHAT LITTLE IS LEFT
OF CIVIL LIBERTIES, SO
THEY'RE HAPPY.

WHILE AGENCY BUDGETS GET INCREASED TO
DEAL WITH THE "THREAT," SO **WE'RE** HAPPY.



MEANWHILE, THE INABILITY OF FORENSICS TO FIND ANY
TRACE OF THAT...THING IN CORWIN'S LABORATORY
TURNS THE WHOLE AFFAIR INTO AN EMBARRASSMENT
THAT THE BUREAU WOULD LIKE TO JUST SEE GO AWAY.

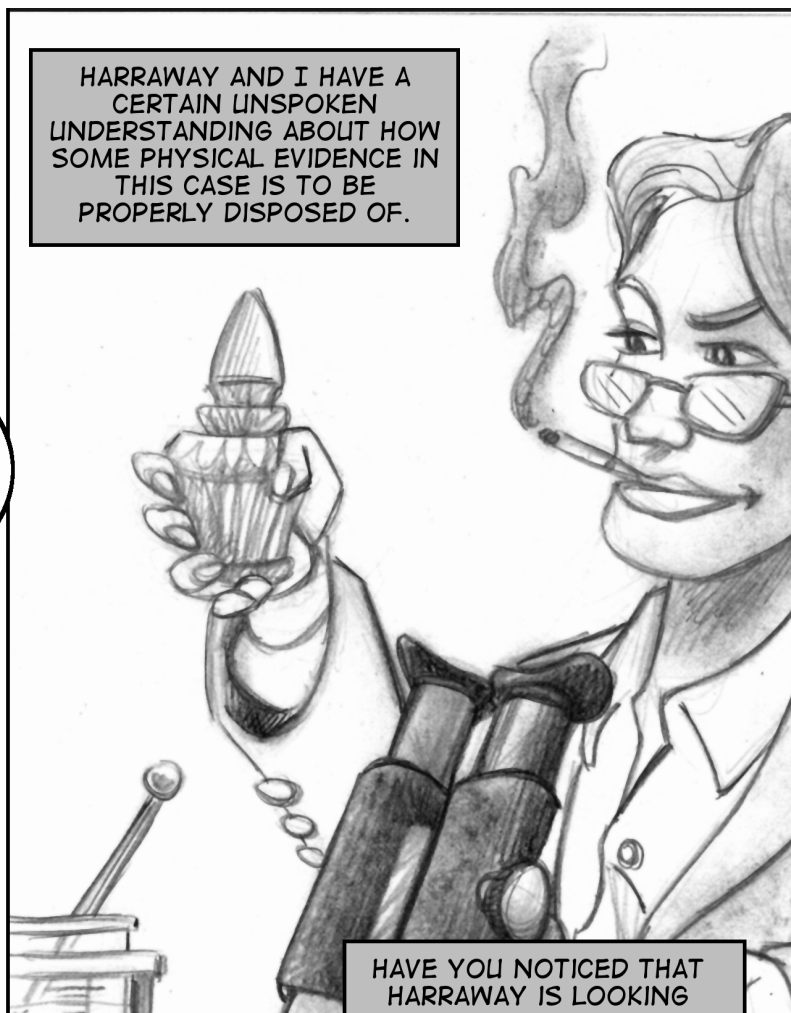
NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE
FAILURE, SPECIAL AGENT SMITH.



WHATEVER
THAT WAS, IT
IS NOW X
DIVISION'S
PROBLEM.

BUT THAT
SCULPTURE...IF
IT'S REALLY...

THEY'LL TEAR IT...
HER... APART!



HARRAWAY AND I HAVE A
CERTAIN UNSPOKEN
UNDERSTANDING ABOUT HOW
SOME PHYSICAL EVIDENCE IN
THIS CASE IS TO BE
PROPERLY DISPOSED OF.

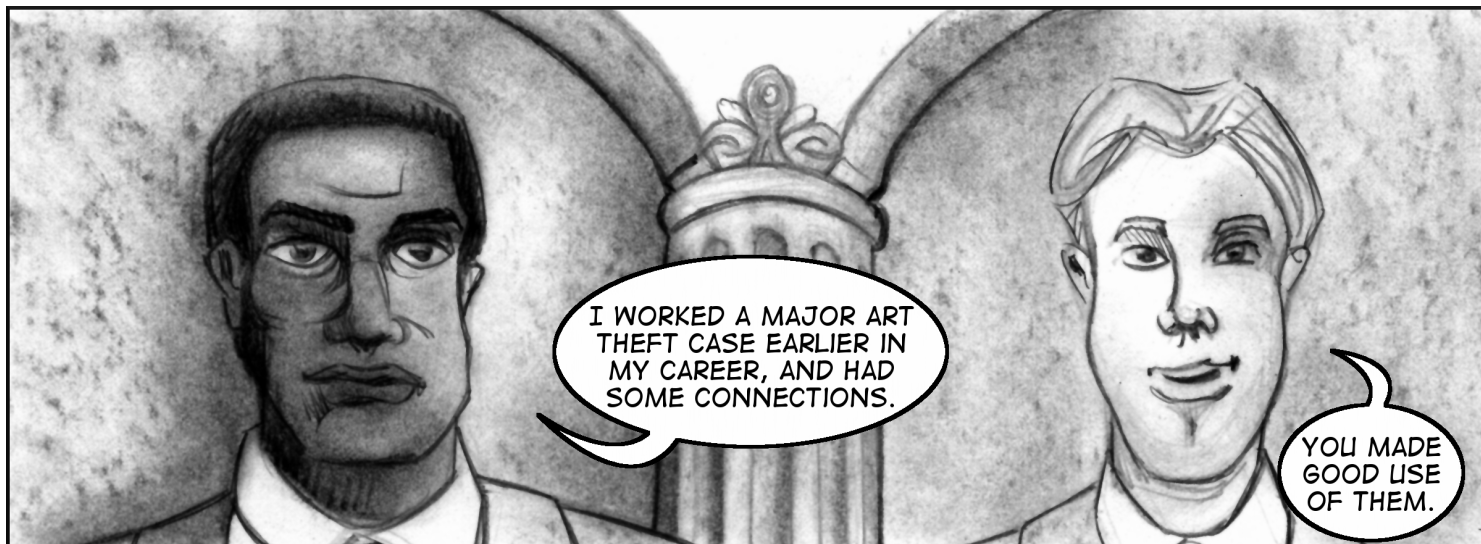
HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT
HARRAWAY IS LOOKING
REALLY GOOD RECENTLY?



3017
MACNEIL

BUT HOW WILL
YOU HIDE...?

HAVEN'T YOU READ
POE'S "THE
PURLOINED LETTER?"





A man and a woman are walking on a sandy beach. The man is wearing a light-colored suit, a white shirt, a brown hat, and brown shoes. He is gesturing with his right hand. The woman is wearing a blue patterned dress and sandals. They are walking towards the right. In the foreground, there is a small red crab on the sand. To the left, there are large green ferns. In the background, there is a rocky shore with blue water and white foam. A speech bubble from the man says, "I CAN'T IMAGINE THEY WILL GET VERY FAR." A speech bubble from the woman says, "THIS IS VERY RISKY OF YOU TO ATTEMPT, ANWEI." A speech bubble from the man says, "HOWEVER RISKY, IF THERE IS ANY CHANCE OF REESTABLISHING CONTACT WITH HOWARD'S SPECIES... POSSIBLY RETRIEVING SOMETHING OF NANETTA AND MOIRA..."

I CAN'T IMAGINE THEY
WILL GET VERY FAR.

THIS IS VERY
RISKY OF YOU TO
ATTEMPT, ANWEI.

HOWEVER RISKY, IF
THERE IS ANY CHANCE OF
REESTABLISHING CONTACT
WITH HOWARD'S SPECIES...
POSSIBLY RETRIEVING
SOMETHING OF NANETTA
AND MOIRA...

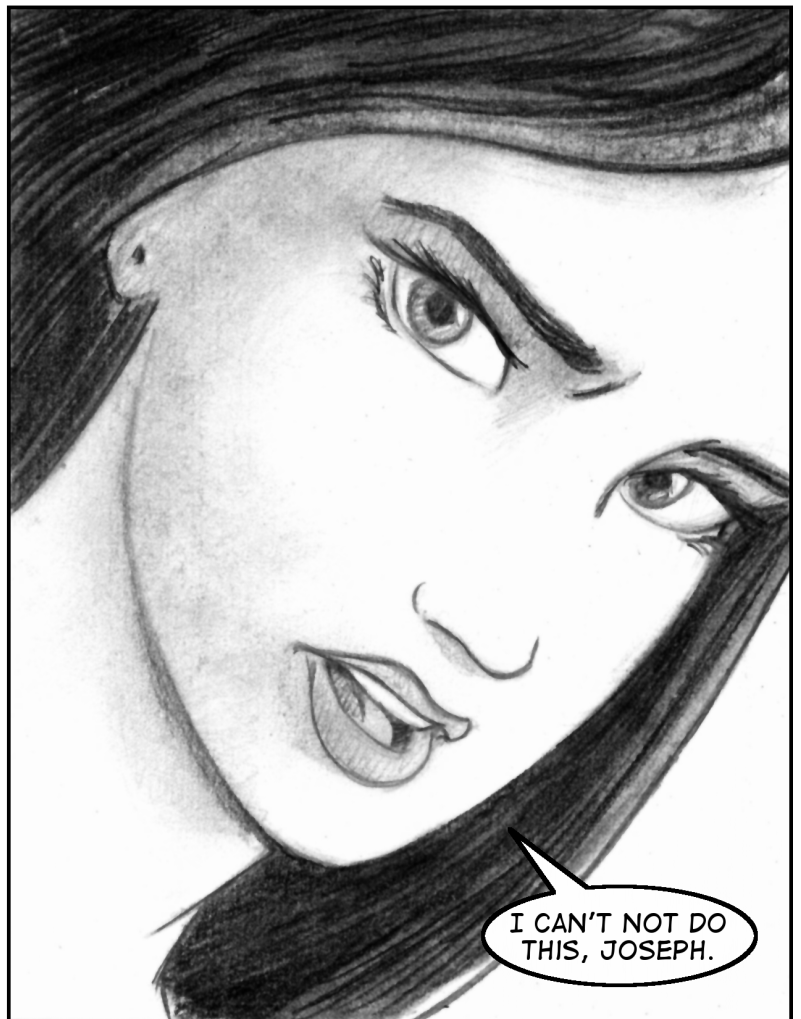


BENTHIC
ENVIRONMENTS
ARE NO JOKE.

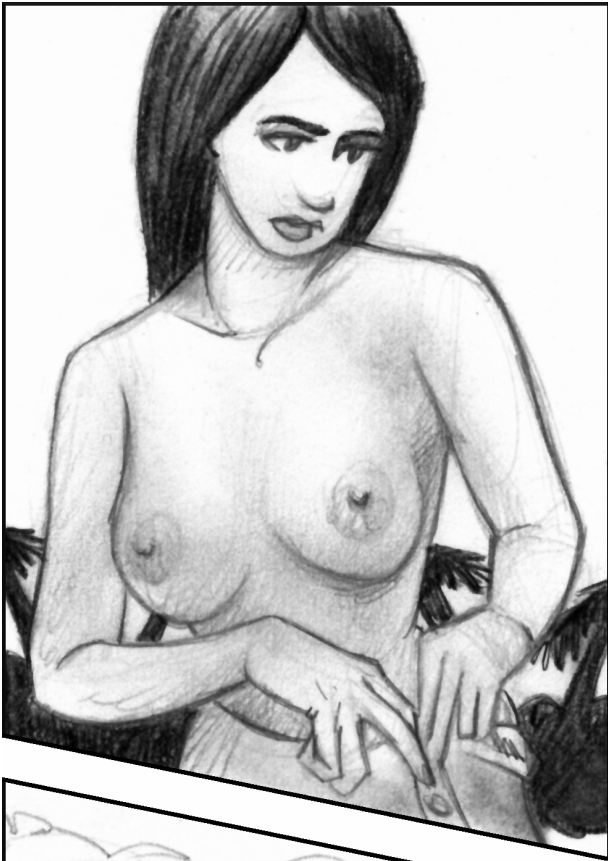
NONETHELESS,
I BELIEVE I CAN
SURVIVE OUT
THERE.

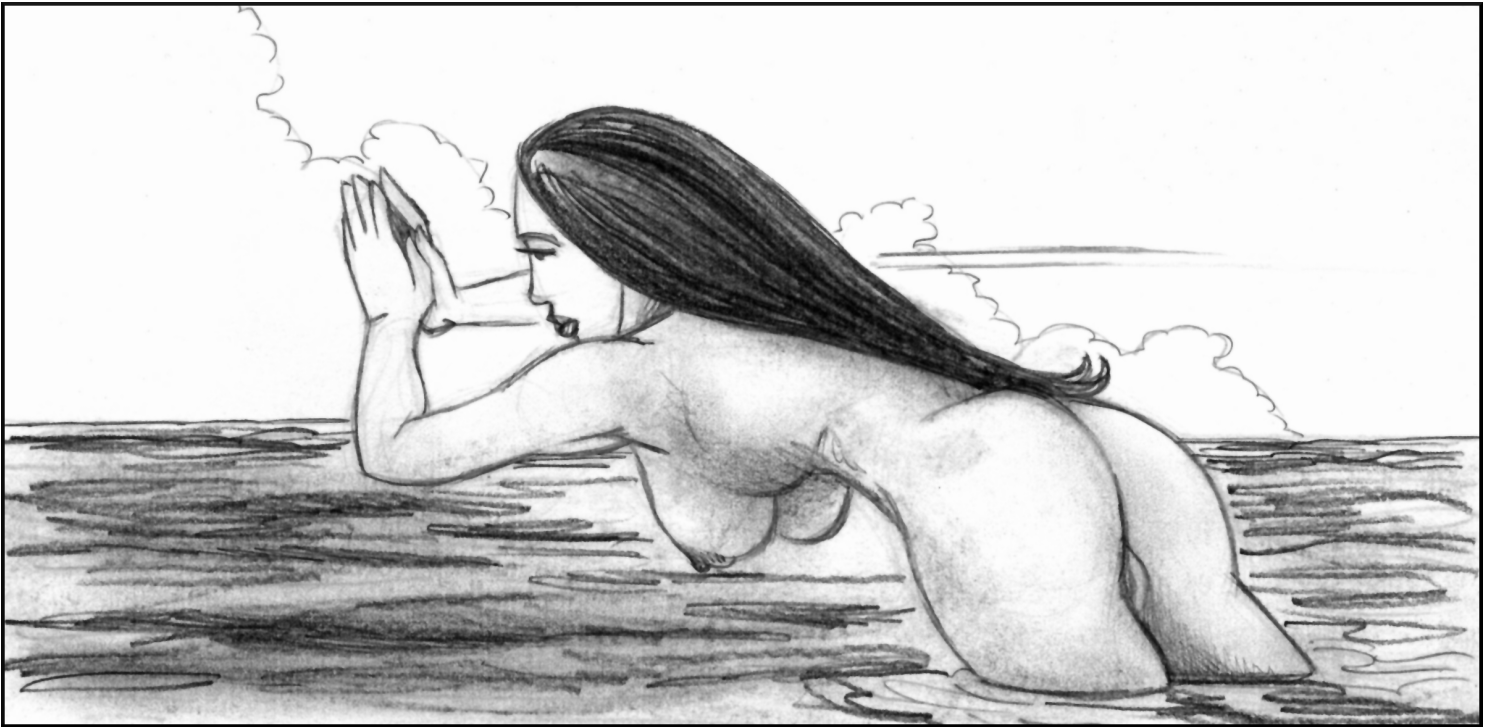


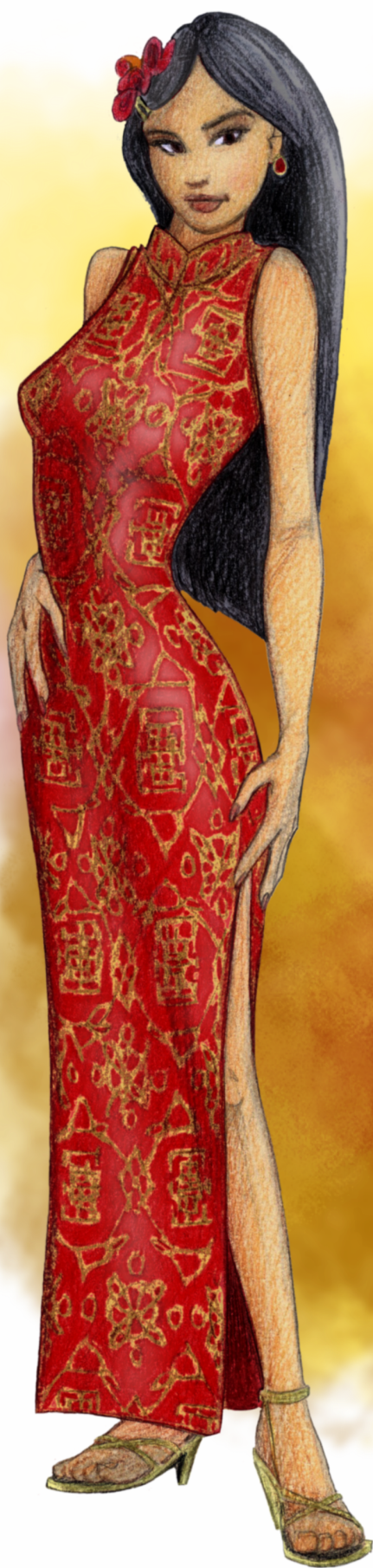
THROUGH ALL OUR USES OF THE
PROTOCOL, BEGINNING WITH THAT
FIRST DESPARATE IMPROVISATION, I
HAVE HAD A SENSE THAT I WAS
UNDERGOING...CHANGES.



I CAN'T NOT DO
THIS, JOSEPH.







李安慰

THOUGH LI ANWEI'S OUTER BEAUTY IS UNDENIABLE, IT IS HER *AMOR FATI*, HER WILLINGNESS TO EMBRACE RATHER THAN FLEE WHAT MOST WOULD SEE AS MAD, THAT CONSTITUTES HER INNER BEAUTY. "I WANT TO LEARN MORE AND MORE TO SEE AS BEAUTIFUL WHAT IS NECESSARY IN THINGS; THEN I SHALL BE ONE OF THOSE WHO MAKE THINGS BEAUTIFUL."